

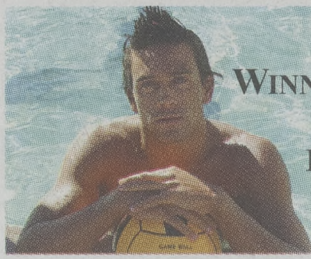
11-9-05



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FORCE-FED VIEWS
 ARE SOME COLLEGE
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VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 64, ISSUE NO. 7

NOVEMBER 9, 2005

IT'S YOUR NEWSPAPER

College Struggles to Attract Students

■ School must meet enrollment-increase goals by summer or lose funds.

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS
 ONLINE EDITOR

To hold on to \$1.3 million in state funding, Valley College administrators are combating the decreasing enrollment with two upcoming events. Monarch Day (Dec. 14) will assist continuing students with enrolling in the right classes and Welcome Day (Jan. 11) will introduce new students to the various services available on campus, including financial aid and counseling.

Enrollment dropped 4 percent this semester, which marked three consecutive years that that figure has dropped. The \$1.3 million was given to Valley this semester to boost enrollment by 3.4 percent by the first summer session of 2006 to meet that increase.

Registration for winter session recently began. Tino Manzano, dean of enrollment, said the numbers look promising, although he declined to give specific numbers.

"We're making a big effort to let our students know when they can register," Manzano said. "It's too early to tell, [but] we've done all we can do."

Manzano also said that students can expect to receive their spring registration dates before Thanksgiving break, which starts Nov. 24.

After careful analysis of the schedule of classes, Manzano's Enrollment Task Force, along with Cherine Trombley, dean of research and planning, is now inquiring of department chairs what changes would make the schedule more student-friendly.

"We looked at the schedule of classes primarily because that's what draws students to a campus," said Valley President Tyree Wieder.

The group's analysis found that there were major flaws in the types of classes being offered and the time slots that in which they were available. Wieder noted that there were too many afternoon classes and not enough evening classes, in addition to a lack of classes meeting graduation and transfer requirements.

A large part of the reason that the numbers are dropping is because of the campus' failure to persuade students to return, according to Wieder, but she is hopeful that Monarch Day will

see 'Enrollment' page 5

Dean's Reception

Honoring Our
 Outstanding
 Students
 Thursday, Nov. 10
 4 p.m.
 Monarch Hall

IN MEMORIAM



CROSSES BEARED - The Arlington West Memorial, held every Sunday at the Santa Monica Pier, honors the more-than 2,000 fallen soldiers from the War in Iraq.

ARTAK AYYAZYAN / VALLEY STAR

OBITUARY

Valley College Historian Dies

■ Thought by many as a legend on campus, Austin Conover is remembered by those who he touched on campus.

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS
 ONLINE EDITOR

Austin Conover, curator of Valley College's Historical Museum of the San Fernando Valley, died Saturday. He was 92.

Austin is survived by his two sons, Charles and Tom, and five granddaughters.

"He was a man who lived life to the fullest," said Patrons Association Director Raul Castillo, who worked with Conover. "He was very passionate about the museum."

Conover, who was the volunteer curator of the museum, had been retired for 17 years. Before working in the museum, Conover was the college's publicist during the 1970s. Prior to getting involved with Valley College, Conover was a reporter for the San Fernando Valley's The Citizen News.

Conover celebrated his 90th birthday at Valley College and on that day he said, "I wish I could



TAMMY ABBOTT / VALLEY STAR

HAPPY MEMORIES - Museum Curator Austin Conover, who died Saturday, is pictured here, two years ago, celebrating his 90th birthday on campus with his family.

go back 40 years. But I don't think anybody has done that before."

Longtime journalism instructor Roger Graham worked with Conover for many years.

"Austin Conover was a wonderful newspaperman," Graham said. "He gave a lot to this community and this college. He will be greatly missed."

The funeral is scheduled for

Friday at 9 a.m. at Forrest Lawn Hollywood Hills' White Chapel at 6300 Forest Lawn Drive, Los Angeles 90068.

Austin's sons request that those wishing to pay their condolences make donations to the Patrons Association Museum Endowment, in the Patrons office in the Administration building, Room 100.

Teach-In Promotes Discussion

BY MAGGIE OWNBEY
 OPINION EDITOR

The best way to solve a problem is to talk about it, get it out in the open and address the issues; that's just what the members of Valley College's Students for Peace club plan to do — the problem: the war in Iraq.

On Wednesday Nov. 16, SFP, with Neighbors for Peace and Justice, San Fernando Valley, is sponsoring "Let's Talk About Iraq," a teach-in and panel discussion at Monarch Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a hope to raise questions and awareness.

"Is our government in Iraq for the right reasons?" "Is it patriotic to oppose the war?" The panel will address these

among many other questions.

"This war affects all of us in all facets of life — we need to talk about it," said 24-year-old Anitra Wetzel, president of SFP. "A no-exit strategy, depleted uranium toxicity and a possible draft are some of the realities of this war that should not be neglected any longer."

Guest speakers scheduled to join the conversation include Jane Bright, co-founder of Gold Star Families for Peace, whose son, Army Sgt. Evan Ashcraft, was killed in action in Mosul on July 24, 2003; Sonali Kolhatkar, host and producer of KPFF's morning "Uprising;" and Chicano studies instructor Pete J. Lopez.

"The reasons for the U.S. going to war in Iraq today are not that much different than when we went to war in Vietnam, the

Persian Gulf War, WWII and Mexico," said Lopez.

"Is it democracy we are fighting for?" Lopez asks. "Or is it global economic markets we have been fighting for to keep and maintain and/or create new ones like Iraq and its oil petroleum reserves? Who's next, Iran?"

Whether your major is political science or it's still undecided the lessons to learn at the teach-in will reach beyond the classroom.

A musical and dance performances by Playing In Traffic and the Melanie Kareem Dance Theatre will be included in the pre-show before the discussion. Admission is free. For event information: info@studentsforpeace.net/neighborsteve2002@yahoo.com.

Valley Prepares for Accreditation

BY EDUARDO MORÁN
 STAFF WRITER

The Valley College's accreditation team is taking a look inward in hopes of preparing a study that will help the college maintain its status as an accredited college.

If Valley loses its accredited status, it will lose federal funding and the classes offered at Valley will not be transferable to other colleges or universities.

"If [students] get a degree from a college that's not accredited," said Tehmine Oganessian, a 23-year-old deaf studies student. "It's like me giving someone any piece of paper. It means nothing."

"It's a scary thing not to be accredited," said accreditation chair Deborah Kaye. "We have to be accredited so students can

transfer."

Administrators, faculty members, classified staff and students are taking part in the accreditation renewal process through a thorough self-study. The study looks at Valley's mission statement to see if the campus is living up to it. It examines the effectiveness of student services and learning programs, to determine whether students are learning what is taught in classrooms. In addition, the self-study also examines the use of Valley's human, technological, physical and financial resources.

"It gives us an opportunity to evaluate what we do and how we do it," said accreditation liaison officer Carlie Tronto. "It helps us make changes and see

see 'Accreditation' page 2

College Raises \$11,000 for Hurricane Victims

BY LAGINA PHILLIPS
 ONLINE EDITOR

Dozens of Valley College volunteers, from deans to students, manned the lunch tables, raffle box and musical instruments with a common goal: raise \$7,500 for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Instead, Valley raised more than \$11,000. The Oct. 26 event included a Taste of New Orleans luncheon and a raffle with prizes such as a mini-DVD player and an iPod.

The campus' goal of raising \$7,500, to be evenly split between the Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity, was surpassed by \$3,500 through not only cash donations, but also through the sale of nearly 600

lunches, 3,111 raffle tickets and coffee sales.

Hurricane Katrina ripped through Louisiana and Mississippi more than two months ago displacing more than a million people and damaging thousands of homes beyond repair.

"So many people were generous with their time, help and cash contributions," said Vocational Dean Laurie Nalepa, who co-chaired The Katrina Committee, crediting assistant Karen Capps with motivating her to get involved with the event. "She came into my office and said, 'I don't think [Valley's] doing anything for Katrina and I think we should.'"

see 'Fundraiser' page 2

AT THE POLLS



MELANIE SALDANA / VALLEY STAR

CASTING THEIR VOTES - California voters decided on eight propositions yesterday. Some more controversial than others.

NEWS REEL

BY HOLLY DARE
Copy Editor

Iraqi War Death Toll

Iraq — The death toll of U.S. forces climbs to 2053. Four soldiers were killed by a suicide bomber at a checkpoint south of Baghdad. It is estimated that more than 150,00 Iraqis have lost their lives in the conflict.

STDs on the Rise

Atlanta — The Centers for Disease Control announced that gonorrhea infections have fallen to their lowest level since record keeping on sexually transmitted diseases began in 1941. In contrast the Chlamydia and syphilis infection rates are climbing.

Cuban Scientist Denied Entry to Accept Award in California

San Jose, Calif. — Vicente Verez-Bencom, a Cuban scientist whose team discovered a low-cost meningitis and pneumonia vaccine for children, was denied entry into the U.S. by the State Department. Verez-Bencom was to be honored by the San Jose Tech Museum of Innovation.

Archdiocese Abuse Cases Headed to Court

Los Angeles — Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Haley Fromholtz green-lighted 44 civil cases against the LA Archdiocese the right to go to trial in 2006. Plaintiffs have tried unsuccessfully to settle their cases for more than three years. Attorneys estimate the cases against will take more than one billion to resolve the accusations against 14 clerics and one teacher.

CAMPUS EYE

Dean's Reception:

Honoring our Outstanding Students
Thursday at Monarch Hall.
4 p.m.

THINK TRANSFER

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TRANSFER CENTER AT
(818) 947-2646

Fall 2006 UC transfer application deadline and CSU transfer application priority deadline is NOV. 30 apply online: www.csumentor.edu or www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Wednesday, Nov. 9

CSUN Rep 10a.m. to 1 p.m.
CSU Application Workshop 1 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 10

UC Berkeley Reception for Prospective Students
6 to 9 p.m. The Hilton Los Angeles Airport
Reserve space at socaloffice@berkeley.edu or at 909 6257418

Friday

Nov. 11 noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday Nov. 12 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
2005 Law School Forum
Los Angeles Airport Marriott
5855 West Century Blvd
Free registration at www.LSAC.org

Saturday, Nov. 12

Pre-medical Conference
8:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
CSUN (USU Grand Salon)
Free registration at csunconference2005@hotmail.com

Monday, Nov. 14

UC Berkeley rep 10am-1pm
CSULA Rep 10am-1pm
UC Application Workshop 5:30pm

Tuesday, Nov. 15

Mount St. Mary's Rep 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
College Application personal Statement Workshop 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 16

CSUN Rep 11am-1pm
CSU Application Workshop 1 p.m.
USC Admissions Workshop 1 p.m.

'Accreditation'

continued from page 1

if we're serving our students."

Done every six years, the self-study measures Valley's performance and aims at meeting the Western Association of Schools and Colleges' criteria for accreditation. The criteria are research-based guidelines to make sure a school is operating with a clear understanding of its purpose.

Ten accreditation teams at Valley will write a report based on research and discussion stating their findings and response to the recommendations made by WASC in 2001. The first draft is due Nov. 30 and revisions are due in March.

Then, a team from the WASC commission will read Valley's report, visit Valley in spring 2007 and interview members of the accreditation teams

and students. The commission will then write a report commending exemplary practices and will issue recommendations in areas that need improvement and determine our status based on this information.

The "Stamp of Approval" assures Valley's integrity.

Although the process began last semester, it's not too late for students to participate in the self-study.

"I encourage students to get involved," said Gayane Markosyan, vice-president of the Associated Student Union. "The input students have is listened to"

Interested students or staff can contact Deborah Kaye, accreditation chair at (818) 947-2805 or email her at kayedr@lavc.edu.

CAMPUS CRIME

Courtesy Call

BY EDUARDO MORÁN
STAFF WRITER

Vandalism

Graffiti writers caused \$350 in damage when they wrote initials in black, silver, blue and orange spray paint on the trash compactor wall on four occasions between Oct. 21 and Oct. 28, including twice on the same day. No suspects or witnesses have been reported on any of the graffiti reports.

Assault

A disgruntled driver pushed a cadet who was issuing a parking ticket to a vehicle at an expired meter in Lot E, Monday, Oct. 24 at 5:10 p.m. The man was upset because he was whistling to

get the cadet's attention and the cadet ignored him, denying him "common courtesy," according to police reports. The cadet said he didn't hear the man. The man removed his jacket and threatened the cadet as he circled him. The cadet advised him to calm down but the man refused and pushed him, which prompted the cadet to call campus police for back up. When they arrived the man was still acting erratically and campus police temporarily handcuffed him and searched him for weapons. The handcuffs were later removed but the man still received a parking ticket.

The Valley College Sheriff's Department asks that anyone with information regarding any of these incidents please call the department at (818) 947-2911.

Preparation is Key to Preventing Interview Jitters

■ Tips for making a good impression.

BY HOLLY DARE
COPY EDITOR

Sooner or later in every job quest, you get lucky and someone wants to meet you. And then, the nerves hit: Will they like me? Will they think I'm qualified? What will I wear? Where will I park?

Those are all valid fears and there are several things you can do to alleviate them and make your interview more successful.

"Students often don't realize how important that initial impression is," said Hanna Pettersson director of the Cooperative Education Program at Valley College. Pettersson offers classes in interviewing skills open to all students five times a semester. To make a good impression, she recommends the basics: smile, look them in the eye and offer a firm handshake.

Dress code is also a factor in the first impression. It's vital to know something about the place where you are interviewing. Do they expect formal business attire or is it casual? If you aren't sure, ask when setting up the interview.

"One of the best things about the seminar was learning how to do background research on a company," said Luz Lua, an accounting major. "I know this seminar will help me get a job in the future."

Piercings and tattoos also need to be taken into consideration. Do your piercings inhibit the way you speak? Would they be distracting in a business setting? If so, it would be a good idea to remove them before the

interview and even during work hours if you get the job.

"Individuals have every right to wear piercings and tattoos but you have to realize, it may affect the job you get," says Pettersson. "However, if you're going for a job at a video store, they may work to your benefit."

In addition to knowing about the dress code, it is a good idea to find out what the company does and where they are located. Research the business on the Internet. Drive to the location the day before and have a plan about where to park. Don't risk being late.

Another good idea is to have a friend rehearse with you. Have them ask you questions about your skills, education and even about the company. The idea is not to sound well rehearsed but to feel comfortable with someone scrutinizing you.

"This seminar makes students think harder about what the employer is looking for and how to make what you have to offer even more attractive to that employer," said Sonia Hines. She took the interview seminar back in 1999 and within a year was so motivated, she started her own company, The Hines Group to coach others in their job search.

"Students think the interview process is to determine skills. The employer has already determined that you have skills from your resume," says Pettersson. "That's why they are interviewing you."

Rather, it is during the interview that an employer checks you out to see if you are a good fit — or if you are a better fit than everyone else with your skills. If you appear relaxed and informed, there's a good chance

Valley Star Wins Top Honor at JACC

■ Newspaper earns its sixth straight "General Excellence" award and 25 individual writing and photography awards and continues its run as a top community college newspaper in the state.

BY ZABIE MANSOORY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The staff and advisers of the Valley Star were honored with their sixth straight General Excellence award at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges regional conference held in Fullerton Oct. 28 and 29 and earned 25 individual awards.

"I am so proud of not only last semester's staff that earned an amazing 19 mail-in awards, but of the new talent on this semester's staff," said LaGina Phillips, who served as editor in chief fall 2004 and spring 2005 and took home four individual awards at the competition.

"This is a staff full of hard-working individuals guided to success by dedicated advisers." The conference, held at Cal



COURTESY OF SALVADOR AGUILAR

GROWING MANTEL - The Valley Star staff celebrates its sixth consecutive "General Excellence" award at the JACC regional conference.

State Fullerton, spanned two days and included more than 25 schools from all over Southern California. The event featured competitions for mail-in entries from the Spring 2005 semester and on-the-spot contests.

When the points from the mail-in categories were totaled, the Star was deemed one of the top seven community college newspapers in Southern California.

Among the staff's individual winners, Photo Editor Dan Villaseñor took home six

awards, including first- and second-place on-the-spot awards; and former editorial cartoonist Tiffany Farmakis collected five awards in the line illustration and editorial cartoon categories.

First semester photographer Nina Bruckner won third place on-the-spot news photo and first semester writer Brian Dean took fourth place on-the-spot opinion writing.

"It's a terrific honor," said Villaseñor. "I'm happy to have won against stiff competition."

'Fundraiser' *continued from page 1*

Capps raised about \$4,300 in raffle ticket sales, but she remains modest: "I was thinking about the people," she said. "I just wish I could be there to help build homes."

Along with Nalepa, Al Amarawansa of plant facilities and music instructor Jennifer Kelly organized the event as committee co-chairs with the participation of many volunteers on campus.

During the event lunch patrons were treated to the jazz stylings of Woody James and the Jazz Octet in Monarch Quad and various seminars on the history and geography of the impacted regions, among other attractions organized by the committee.

"This was after these terrible images were off the television, and

when the shock affect wears off sometimes people forget, [but] that wasn't the case," said Jeanne Rubin, Katrina committee member and executive assistant to Valley President Tyree Wieder, commenting on the amount of support students and faculty gave to the event. Rubin stressed that although the hurricane hit more than two months ago the need in the impacted areas is still strong.

The Associated Student Union, with the help of Capps, is responsible for the sale of the more-than-3,000 raffle tickets as well as many other contributions.

"This is why I wanted this position," said ASU President and Katrina Committee member Nelli Marirosyan. "I'm here to make a difference."

For more stories and photos, go online to www.lavalleystar.com

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ARTAK AYZAZYAH
Interview Seminars in the spring semester. Contact Cooperative Education for times and locations: 947-2333.

you could leave that interview with a job or even a new career. Valley Cooperative Education will begin five

Helpful Interview Tips:

- ❖ **Where are you located?** This is an opportunity to inquire about parking as well.
- ❖ **How many people will I meet with?** There's nothing more shocking than thinking you are going to meet with the person you've been chatting up on the phone and instead find there are five people in the room.
- ❖ **What is the company dress code?** Remember, it is better to slightly overdress than to appear too casual.

The Valley Star is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program. Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue, Valley Glen, CA 91401, (818) 947-2576. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Materials published herein, including any opinions expressed and advertisements should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any office or employee thereof. Editorials are the opinion of the editorial board only and do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff. Columns are the opinion of the writer. Letters are the opinions of the reader.

WE'RE NOT PSYCHIC

So tell us what's on your mind! Contact The Valley Star at thevalleystar@yahoo.com, drop by the newsroom at BJ114 or call us at (818) 947-2576. Letters should be limited to 300 words and may be edited for publication.

OPINION

3

Force-Feeding Lessons

■ Nationwide, some college instructors are being accused of abusing academic freedom.

By MARC HOWARD
STAFF WRITER

There is no doubt that students are entitled to academic freedom.

For years, conservative student groups at American colleges and universities have accused liberal professors of discriminating against students with conservative views. Students say that they have been verbally abused, have had their grades lowered for expressing conservative views and that many professors are consistently presenting politically one-sided lectures.

When Gerald Wilson, a Duke University professor was asked if he had any prejudices, he replied, "Republicans." He was forced to apologize.

A conservative-minded Cal State Long Beach student says that she lost her perfect GPA when her professor gave her paper on Fahrenheit 9/11 a failing grade because she apparently "missed the point of the film."

A dozen states, including California, have considered signing into law an Academic Bill of Rights that would require that all publicly funded colleges and universities to ensure that professors provide a balance of ideas in classes and that students' grades are based solely on their knowledge and performance, and not on their political or religious beliefs.

The legislation was rejected in California this past Spring. However Congress is considering a similar measure

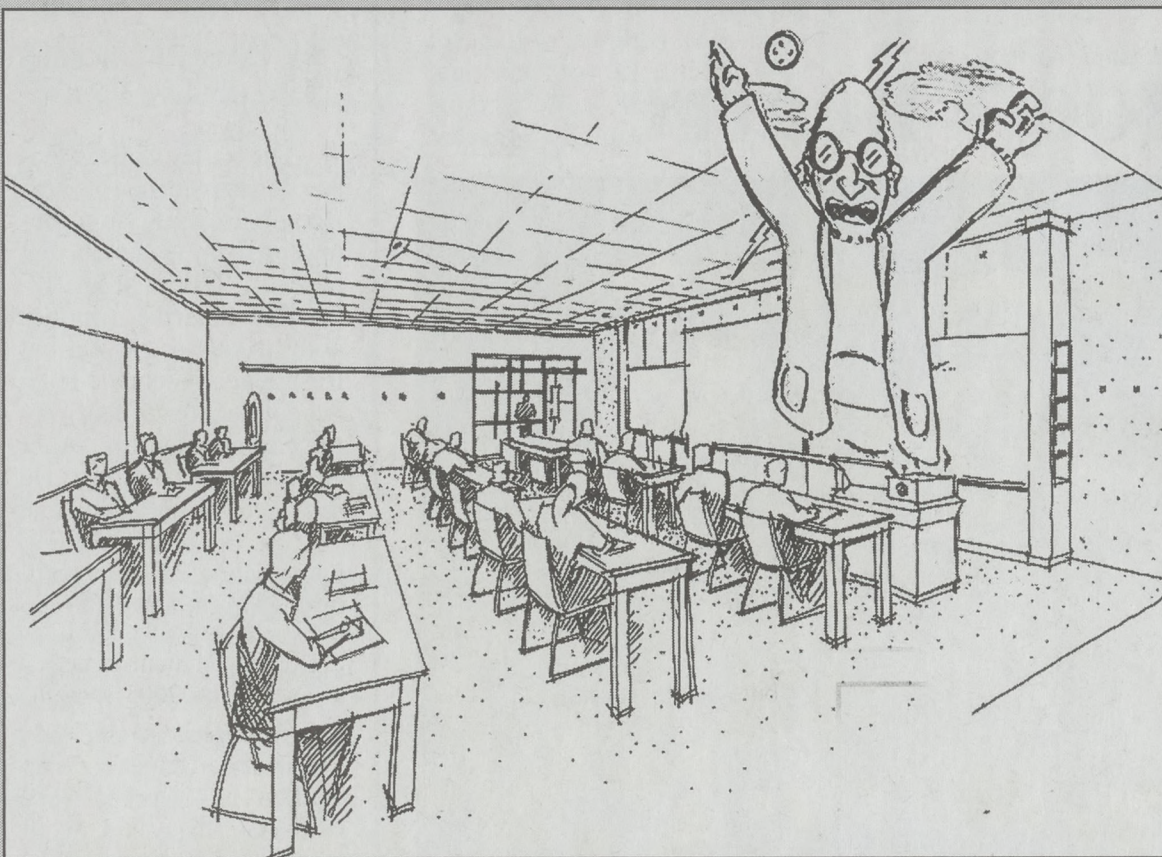


ILLUSTRATION BY DAN VILLASEÑOR / VALLEY STAR

contained within the Higher Education Act, which is expected to pass soon.

While legislation like the HEA is purportedly designed to ensure the academic freedom of the student, it undermines that of the college and of the instructor. To allow the government a say in what information is being taught in classrooms would be to compromise the integrity of the classroom, which would be against the educational interests of the student.

Students should have the freedom to express their viewpoints in a classroom setting without fear of the repercussions. But if instructors are targeting students who hold conservative views, it is the responsibility of the college, not the government, to redress such misuses of authority. It is

likewise the responsibility of the college to acknowledge the student's right to a quality education that includes discussion on a broad spectrum of ideas.

To pass legislation that would affect the content of class lectures in the name of intellectual independence would be counterproductive; a true paradox. This could be a step toward ultimately hanging college professors from puppet strings manipulated by the fingers of the government.

The Colorado Legislature recently condemned the statements of University of Colorado ethnic studies professor Ward Churchill that seemed to imply that the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks were justified. But is it the place of state lawmakers to condemn or approve statements made by college professors?

What about the academic freedom of the educator?

Harvard University President Larry Summers caused some controversy earlier this year for suggesting that men were innately more adept at science and engineering professions than women.

Summers apologized for his remarks five days later, but he seemingly did so simply because the remarks made people uncomfortable.

It is not an educator's job to make students comfortable.

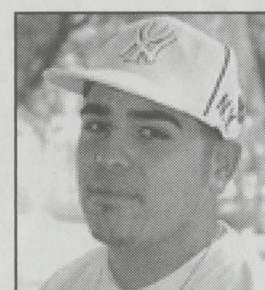
In fact, one responsibility of instructors should be to highlight ideas that could be deemed politically incorrect whether those ideas are radically left or right.

The academic freedom of the educator is every bit as important as that of the student.

Campus View

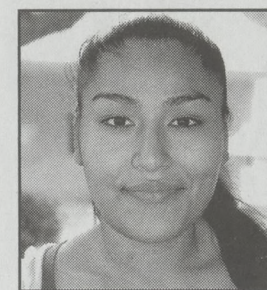
Have you had experiences with instructors whose personal beliefs influence their class?

PHOTOS BY MELANIE SALDANA



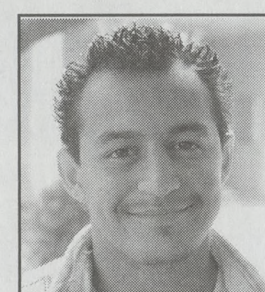
"I haven't had an experience like that. My business law class discusses morals and ethics, but not the professor's view specifically."

-Christopher Rigos
Business Major



"I personally have not had that experience with a professor who brought religious views into the classroom. As for politics, they just remind us to vote, but are not trying to influence how it happens."

-Laura Vargus
Business Major



"No, not in my classes. If my professor had a strong opinion that affected the material, I would leave the class."

-Norman Lopez
Real Estate Certificate



"I haven't had instructors that have brought their views to the class. It wouldn't bother me if they did, I like to hear different opinions. I would debate the professor if I didn't agree."

-Rose Haider
Undecided Major



COURTESY OF COMEDY CENTRAL

THAT'S THE WAY IT IS - As network newswatchers lose the faith, Jon Stewart's fake news wins hearts and minds.

The War at Home: Fighting for Veterans' Peace of Mind

■ Support our troops: benefits, pensions and fair wages are their right—not a privilege.

By MAGGIE OWNBEY
OPINION EDITOR

The tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been guarded around the clock, with religious precision, continuously since 1930. To those who are assigned this sacred duty it is considered one of the highest honors that can be bestowed. Now, if only our government would put that level of commitment into protecting and supporting our living soldiers and veterans ...

As the war in Iraq rages on, the number of soldiers killed has escalated to more than 2,050. The men and women who have come home wounded has surpassed 15,470.

When they return, they will face another battle—fighting to stop their benefits from being cut and to prevent the closures of Veterans Administration hospitals where soldiers from six wars have come to heal.

"I have used the VA hospital system and have seen it dwindle each year," said Vietnam veteran Ed Ellis, who serves as president of Veterans for Peace Los Angeles. "This year they propose closing Walter Reed—the keystone in the chain of VA hospitals."

The future of VA medicine

may well be outsourcing—participants going to non-veteran-oriented clinics where the lines are long and the service is meager, according to Ellis.

"Where is the care for those that have protected this country?" asked Ellis. "Those who need services to recover from the damage of war."

Could its absence be because those who misled us into this war never served one single day of military duty? The infamous neocon hawks, from Wolfowitz and Rove to Libby and Rice, declined to serve for one reason or another.

And it goes all the way to the top—Bush and Cheney each took a pass when it came to enlisting.

President Bush has the power to overturn the decision to close Walter Reed Army Medical Center by 2010. Maybe if he had more firsthand experience with the realities of war, he could comprehend the seriousness of veterans' needs—needs that increase as this war continues, including treatments for physical and psychological wounds such as shattered limbs, damaged eyes and sickness from breathing in depleted uranium and post-traumatic stress disorder.

The U.S. uses depleted uranium in weapons and tank armor. It is dense, and when shells containing it strike a target, radioactive uranium oxide dust is formed.

This toxic substance lodges in the lungs and can result in diseases such as lung cancer and leukemia.

And the damage could stretch to future generations of children who could be born with birth defects.

"Where is the care for those that have protected this country...who need services to recover from the damage of war?"

Post-traumatic stress disorder can be just as debilitating, though not as visible.

"Just because someone is not wounded on the outside doesn't mean they're not wounded," said Syed Hussain, a veteran and international student retention services coordinator at Valley College.

The Bush administration's 2004 budget slashed funding for veteran's health care and benefit programs by nearly \$25 million over the next 10 years.

These cuts will prevent many veterans from receiving disability pensions. Meanwhile, the cost of the Iraq conflict soars past \$200 billion as it creates a new generation of disabled veterans.

Mr. Bush, wake up!

While you're sleeping peacefully in your nice, warm

bed, the number of veterans who put their lives on the line and now sleep in cars and homeless shelters is on the rise.

It's hard to make it trying to exist on the lousy take home pay your administration seems to think is adequate.

When a corporal earns hazard pay of about \$1,500 a month—that's roughly \$18,000 a year—and a Halliburton employee in Iraq pulls in close to \$120,000, something is very wrong.

"I think returning veterans should be given priority in job opportunities, especially with those defense contractors who make so much off of war," said Ellis, who also serves as the co-director of Arlington West Memorial in Santa Monica.

"It's not the soldiers who are sending our troops to war. That decision is made by someone sitting behind a desk—the same people that make the decisions to cut benefits and close hospitals," said Zach Moss, president of Valley's Veterans Club. "Something that they teach you from basic training on is that when you're fighting you're not necessarily fighting for your politics—you're fighting for the guy to your left and the guy to your right."

This Veteran's Day, whether you're for or against the invasion of Iraq, Republican or Democrat, let's fight for the support, respect and services our soldiers so richly deserve.

The Most Trusted Man in America?

■ Want truth? Get your minimum "Daily" requirement.

By KRISTEN BECKER
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The young are notoriously apathetic when it comes to politics. Too many of us don't vote or even seem to care about what is taking place in the world. Why then are we clearing our calendars to get nightly doses of brainy political satire on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart"?

A 2004 Pew Research Center poll found that only 23 percent of people aged 18-29 got their news from ABC, CBS and NBC.

That's not to say they were uninformed; 21 percent said they got their election information from sources like "The Daily Show" and "Saturday Night Live."

"Either that says something terrible about news organizations or something terrible about the comedy we're doing, or [something] terrible about teenagers," "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

If that says something terrible about news organizations, it's because truth hurts. There

is a general suspicion, at least among the young adults I know, that the media are not presenting us the full truth.

Opinion is reported as fact. Partisan bickering has replaced investigation and analysis. And the major news organizations seem afraid of saying anything that may be construed as critical of the current administration.

The recent legal claim by Fox News that it had patented the phrase "Fair and Balanced" is no more ridiculous than the sight of CNN's Nancy Grace's nostrils flaring at the scent of a sensational story.

But viewers are not confused about Stewart's views on the state of politics and the media.

He does not claim to offer a fair and balanced perspective; he continually reminds his audience that he is a comedian doing a fake news show.

"We flagrantly manipulate footage," former correspondent Stephen Colbert has gleefully admitted. Like traditional news outlets, the "Daily Show" adds music to footage which, according to Colbert, "distorts in a way that doesn't seem to add to information, just entertainment quality. And we come out and

see Stewart page 5

WEDNESDAY
TO TUESDAY

Wednesday, Nov. 9



Clay Aiken
Kodak Theatre
8 p.m.
\$45.50-\$80.50
(213) 480-2323

Thursday, Nov. 10



Dean's Reception
Monarch Hall
4 p.m.



Seamus Blackley
Book Soup
7 p.m.
Free
(310) 659-3110



Veteran's Day Film Festival
Cafeteria
Conference Room
8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Free
For more information contact Zach Moss at mosschuck@yahoo.com

Friday, Nov. 11



Dennis Miller
Irvine Improv
8:30 p.m. and
10:30 p.m.
(949) 854-5455



Movie Releases:
"Pride and Prejudice" (PG)
"Zathura" (PG)

Saturday, Nov. 12



B.B. King
Vault 350
9 p.m.
\$75
(562) 590-5566



Paul McCartney
Arrowhead Pond of Anaheim
7 p.m.
\$49.50-\$250
(714) 704-2500



Rickie Lee Jones
Wilshire Theatre
8 p.m.
\$39.50
(323) 468-1716

Sunday, Nov. 13



"Crumble (Lay Me Down Justin Timberlake)"
Moving Arts at Los Angeles Theatre Center
2 p.m.
\$15
(866) 811-4111



Broadway on Ice
Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts
3 p.m.
\$20-\$50
(800) 300-4345

Monday, Nov. 14



Eagles
Staples Center
8 p.m.
\$25-\$175
(213) 742-7300

Tuesday, Nov. 15



DVD Releases:
"Madagascar" (PG)
"Stealth" (PG-13)
"The Skeleton Key" (PG-13)



Rob Thomas
The Wilern LG
8 p.m.
\$39.50-\$55.00
(213) 380-5005

MUSICAL REVIEW

"Dames" Commandeers
Horseshoe Theatre

MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

BON VOYAGE - Pictured are Daniel Zrike, Chavonne Rees, Dillon Zrike, Alex Banuelos, Vincent Perez, Jenna Townsend and Oscar Luzanilla who set sail in the production of "Dames at Sea." The show continues Nov. 10, 11 and 12.

By TAMMY FUNICELLO
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

Valley's theater department proved this week that a musical about the 1930s can still win over audiences in 2005.

"Dames at Sea," set in the 1930s, but written in the 1970s tells the story of a girl named Ruby (played by Chavonne Rees) who travels to New York by bus from Utah because she is determined to be on Broadway. When she gets up there, she meets a sailor named Dick (Daniel Zrike) and they fall in love.

Through song-and-dance numbers we see not only three different relationships develop, but how they all came together and put on a Broadway show.

The cast of 10 did a remarkable job of not only singing, but tapping as well, especially since some cast members didn't even know how to tap when they started rehearsals.

The tap dancers, led by

Dillon Zrike (*see profile at right*), helped keep the show moving with their lively precision.

Lorin Henner was a standout, playing two large roles, Hennessey the director of the Broadway show, and the ship's captain, who won over the hearts of the women in the audience.

The cast of 10 did a remarkable job of not only singing, but tapping as well, especially since some cast members didn't even know how to tap when they started rehearsals.

The show, directed and choreographed by Cathy Pyles, featured 16 energetic musical numbers, including "Wall Street," "Broadway Baby" and "The Beguine."

Accompanying the singers were pianist Alby Potts and drummer Ray Frisbee. Their spot-on playing highlighted the excellent voices of the cast and brought the entire musical together.

All the songs were great, but "Raining in My Heart," sung by Ruby was a favorite, especially because of the umbrellas the cast used as props.

The numbers by Mona Kent (Carly Turner) such as "That Mister Man of Mine" were also all very good because of her outstanding voice.

The nearly two-hour show was a light-hearted look back into the 1930s that was well-put together and made for an entertaining evening.

After this show wraps, the theater department is signing off for the semester. Next year's musical has already been planned, however. Kander and Ebb's "Steel Pier" will run next March 31 and April 1, 7 and 8.

"Dames at Sea" is playing at Valley College's Horseshoe Theatre
Nov. 10, 11 and 12.

Call (818) 947-2790 for reservations.

VALLEY PEOPLE

Child Prodigy?

By TAMMY FUNICELLO
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

The Valley College theater department has the next Doogie Howser tap dancing for them in the current musical, "Dames at Sea."

Dillon Zrike (rhymes with trike), a 14-year-old freshman at Glendale High School, is already half way to completing his A.A. Degree in Theater Arts. He managed to complete one year at Valley while being home-schooled for sixth through eighth grade.

"Dillon seems to have a propensity for reaching a level of excellence at whatever he chooses to do," said his father, Kenneth Zrike. "Dillon has worked very hard over the years in all facets of the arts, and he is already an accomplished musician, actor and dancer."

Dillon Zrike has already had a busy, exciting life. He and his 17 year old brother, Daniel, were born in Japan and moved to New York at the age of 3. After a three year stay in Arizona he moved to the San Fernando Valley. Since then he has moved three more times to different houses in the area for various reasons. All that moving at such a young age helped him learn to adapt to all situations.

Zrike, who has been acting since age 5 when he was cast in the musical "Kids" in New York because his brother was in it and they needed an extra person, has done various plays at Valley and elsewhere, as well as some

independent films such as "Arizona Summer." Although he likes films, he would much rather be in plays and musicals because he enjoys the camaraderie among the people he meets in the shows.

"Theater is way better," said Zrike. "I don't like the whole hurry-up-and-wait thing. You have to get up early in the morning just to sit around and wait all day to say two lines."

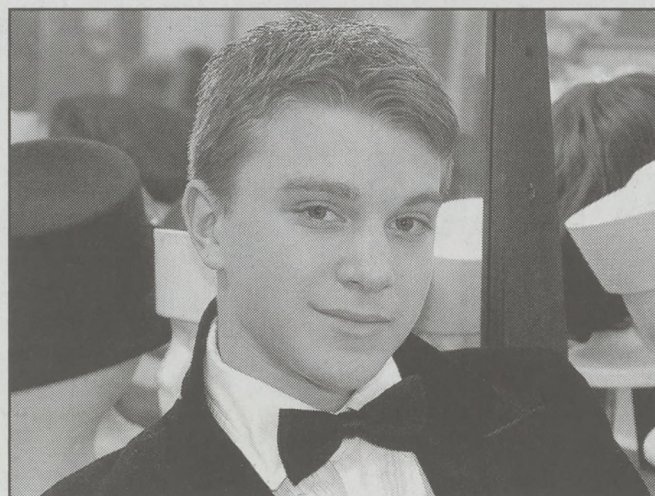
Recently, Zrike took up a new hobby, tap dancing. He started just about a year ago and now is the lead tap dancer in "Dames at Sea."

Zrike also has another talent, drumming, which he picked up about a year and a half ago and is currently in two bands. One is a blues band with his brother while the other he started recently with a few of his friends.

"He has a great energy and great tap feet," said "Dames at Sea" director Cathy Pyles. "He has such a great career ahead of him. He is terrific to work with. He is like everyone's little brother."

He doesn't have a lot of free time between school, rehearsals and homework. When he gets the time he loves to read and play sports, especially football, which he hopes to start playing for his school in February. He also enjoys taking gymnastics classes.

"He is deserving of every role he gets, and most directors feel Dillon gives them everything he's got," said his father. "For this, I'm very proud of Dillon."



MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

THE NEXT GENE KELLY OR FRED ASTAIRE? - Dillon Zrike, a talented 14-year-old theater major, who plays Charlie in "Dames at Sea."

MOVIE REVIEW

"Jarhead" Provides Jarring Look at War



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL

"Jarhead"

Director: Sam Mendes
Features: Jake Gyllenhaal, Jamie Foxx

★★★★ out of 5

By HOLLY DARE
COPY EDITOR

"Jarhead," based on the acclaimed book by Anthony Swofford, provides a fresh and unsettling look at the first Gulf

War, which was packaged so antiseptically by the armed forces and news media. The title refers to the nickname Marines give themselves because their newly shaven heads resemble jars.

We follow "Swoff," beautifully played by Jake Gyllenhaal ("Moonlight Mile," "Day After Tomorrow"), as a third-generation enlistee from boot camp to active duty as a sniper. We experience it all: the hazing by fellow troops, a friendly fire killing of a fellow trainee, Swoff's demotion for drinking on Christmas Eve, which led to a fire in the camp, and his punishment - burning the crap from the latrines.

Throughout, Gyllenhaal provides a voice-over check list for every detail of his hurry-up-and-wait life: "Things a marine needs to burn [the contents] of a

latrine: five gallons of diesel, a long metal pole and an incendiary device."

The cast is rounded out by Peter Sarsgaard ("Flightplan," "Skeleton Key") as a fellow sniper, Academy Award-winners Jamie Foxx and Chris Cooper ("Adaptation"), and the always-reliable Dennis Haysbert ("Far From Heaven"). Sam Mendes ("American Beauty," "Road to Perdition") helmed.

The movie is a beautifully shot, no-holds-barred look at Marine life that takes us along on the roller coaster of emotions faced by this group. We fear for Swoff and company as they take fire from both Iraqis and Americans. We feel their anguish as they realize wives and girlfriends have moved on with their lives stateside. Shock

fills the theater as the viewer realizes how all the watchful waiting wears on Swoff.

Time is the most important element of the film. The Marine's naiveté at just how long it will take them to "kick Iraqi [butt]" and end this war - two days. The long, drawn out waiting in the Saudi Arabian desert for combat to begin - 175 days, 14 hours and five minutes. The length of Swoff's actual war.

Early in the film, Swoff explains that, to him, the nickname Jarhead is not only literal - the way the Marines look - it also implies that they are empty vessels waiting to be filled. Each Jarhead takes away experiences that will last their lifetimes. "Jarhead" will have a lasting impact on the viewer as well.

NEWS

5

'Stewart'

continued from page 3

say we're doing that."

Stewart's viewers know what to expect when they watch the show.

Because he so openly manipulates the information he provides, there is no need to try to read between the lines to separate the facts from the opinion.

Networks like CNN and Fox News tell their viewers to trust the drips and drabs of news they regurgitate and are not open about the fact that they too manipulate what they are telling their viewers.

No wonder that, whether it's because of a liberal or conservative bias in the media, so many people feel they are being

misled.

In the wake of Rathergate, CBS was reportedly considering wooing Stewart away from basic cable to be one of several anchors — on their Evening News! Network news ratings continue to slide, their audiences inexorably aging beyond advertisers' desired demographics, and CBS' hare-brained scheme was undoubtedly a flailing attempt to dip into Stewart's core audience. But is making a comedian with no journalistic training the anchor on the CBS Evening News really the answer?

Meanwhile, "The Daily Show" continues to rake in the awards — Emmys, Television Critics Awards (not only as a comedy program, but for Outstanding Achievement in News and Information), and

even Peabodys, the most prestigious of news broadcasting honors — not even Bill O'Reilly has one of those, although he apparently thinks he does.

NBC's Brian Williams paid the fake newsman the very high compliment of invoking the phrase credited with sinking Sen. Joe McCarthy. The Nightly News anchor told the Washington Post, "the din of our media has reached the point where we could use a have-you-no-sense-of-decency-sir-at-long-last moment."

Perhaps rather than focusing on Stewart's popularity among young people, the major news organizations should worry about why they have lost the trust of young adults.

"The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" is on Monday-Thursday, 8 p.m. on Comedy Central.

'Enrollment'

continued from page 1

because of the campus' failure to persuade students to return, according to Wieder, but she is hopeful that Monarch Day will attract interest.

Valley's goal is to increase the spring 2006 enrollment to 5,565 from 2005's 5,128 students. In her State of the Campus address two weeks ago, Wieder focused on ways to boost enrollment. Other than the revised schedule of classes and in-reach efforts, proposals included increased marketing.

However, if the campus fails

to attract the additional 13,359 students by summer and is forced to return the full \$1.3 million in state funds, administrators will face a shortfall. Perhaps anticipating that, administrators have already started to institute budget cuts, including a hiring freeze and program and supply cuts.

"To this point we have not had to reduce staffing as five of the nine colleges [in the Los Angeles Community College District] have done over the past few years," said Vice-President of Student Services Yasmin Delahoussaye in a memo. "But that may be our next step."

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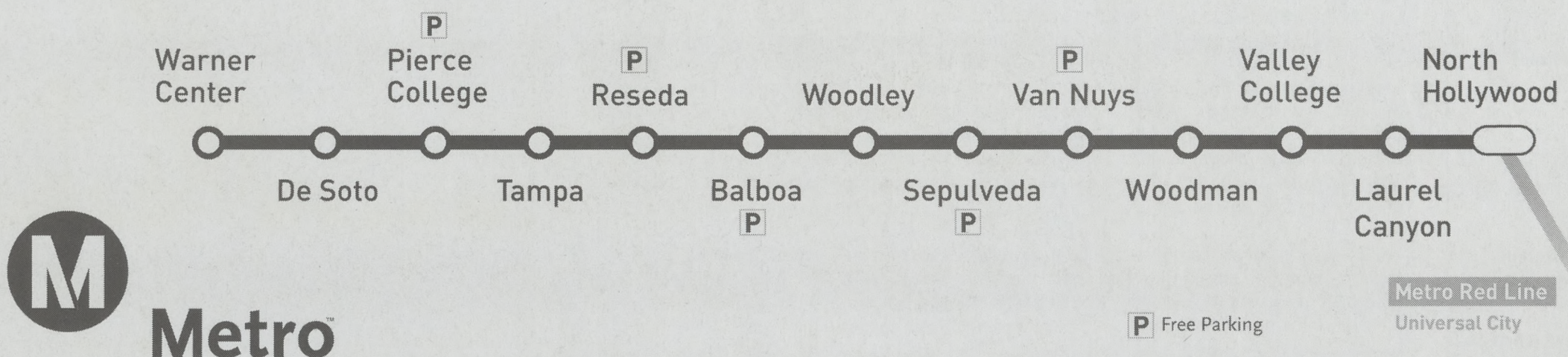
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LAVC SCORES

M. Water Polo vs. Cuesta
(L 8-7) 11/5/05

W. Water Polo vs. Cuesta
(L 10-4) 11/5/05
*Finished 4th in Conference

Soccer vs. Citrus
(W 2-1) 11/4/05

Football vs. Pierce
(W 30-25) 11/5/05

LAVC SCHEDULE

Wednesday 11/9/05
No Scheduled Games

Thursday 11/10/05
M. Basketball @ Ventura College Tip-Off
TBA
W. Basketball @ North/South Shootout
TBA

Friday 11/11/05
M. Basketball @ Ventura College Tip-Off
TBA
W. Basketball @ North/South Shootout
TBA
M. Water Polo @ So. Cal. Championship
2 pm
W. Soccer @ Glendale College 3 pm

Saturday 11/12/05
Football @ College of Canyons 7 pm
M. Basketball @ Ventura College Tip-Off
TBA
M. Water Polo @ So. Cal. Championship
TBA

Sunday 11/13/05
W. Basketball @ North/South Shootout
TBA

Monday 11/14/05
W. Soccer @ Santa Monica 7pm

Tuesday 11/15/05
No Scheduled Games

Wednesday 11/16/05
M. Basketball @ San Diego City College
7:30 pm

Thursday 11/17/05
M. Basketball @ Compton College 5:30
pm

PRO SCHEDULE

NBA

Lakers @ Minnesota
5 pm KCLA

Clippers @ Washington
4 pm KTLLA

Memphis @ Boston
4:30 pm FxMS

Seattle @ Cleveland
4 pm FxSS

San Antonio @ Charlotte
4:30 pm FxSW

Utah @ New Jersey
4:30 FxRm

Miami @ Indiana
5 pm ESPN

Dallas @ Philadelphia
4 pm FxSW

Sacramento @ Denver
7:30 pm ESPN

Chicago @ Golden State
5:30 pm FxBy

Orlando @ New Ori/OKC
5 pm SUNS

NFL

Arizona @ Detroit 1 pm

Baltimore @ Jacksonville
1 pm

Houston @ Indianapolis
1 pm

San Francisco @ Chicago
1 pm

New England @ Miami
1 pm



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FOOTBALL

Wishes Come True For Monarchs Again

BY NICK SANTONI
STAFF WRITER

Penalty flags sailed through the air at Pierce College's John Shepard Stadium like shooting stars. Football wishes would be made and Valley College's would come true.

The Monarch football team earned its second victory of the season, beating conference rival Pierce College 30-25 Saturday. No individual players stole the show; instead, the referees took center stage and had the greatest impact on the game, assessing 22 penalties for 220 yards.

"I hate saying this, but the refs were unbelievable today," said Monarch head coach Jimmy Sims. "Some bad officiating allowed Pierce to get back in the game. Fortunately, we were still able to pull it out."

Pulling out the victory was a much greater task than the team had initially thought. The Monarchs almost squandered a 24-6 third-quarter lead. What at first appeared to be the makings of a blowout ended as a nail biter.

For the first time all season, the Monarchs' squad was able to get significant offense from its running and passing games. Opting primarily for aerial assaults in the past, the Monarchs relied heavily on their ground force — draw plays to running backs Abel Herrera and Terrell Patterson were the Monarchs' most effective attacks. Herrera finished with 135 yards on 22 carries and two touchdowns, and Patterson added 91 yards on 14 carries.

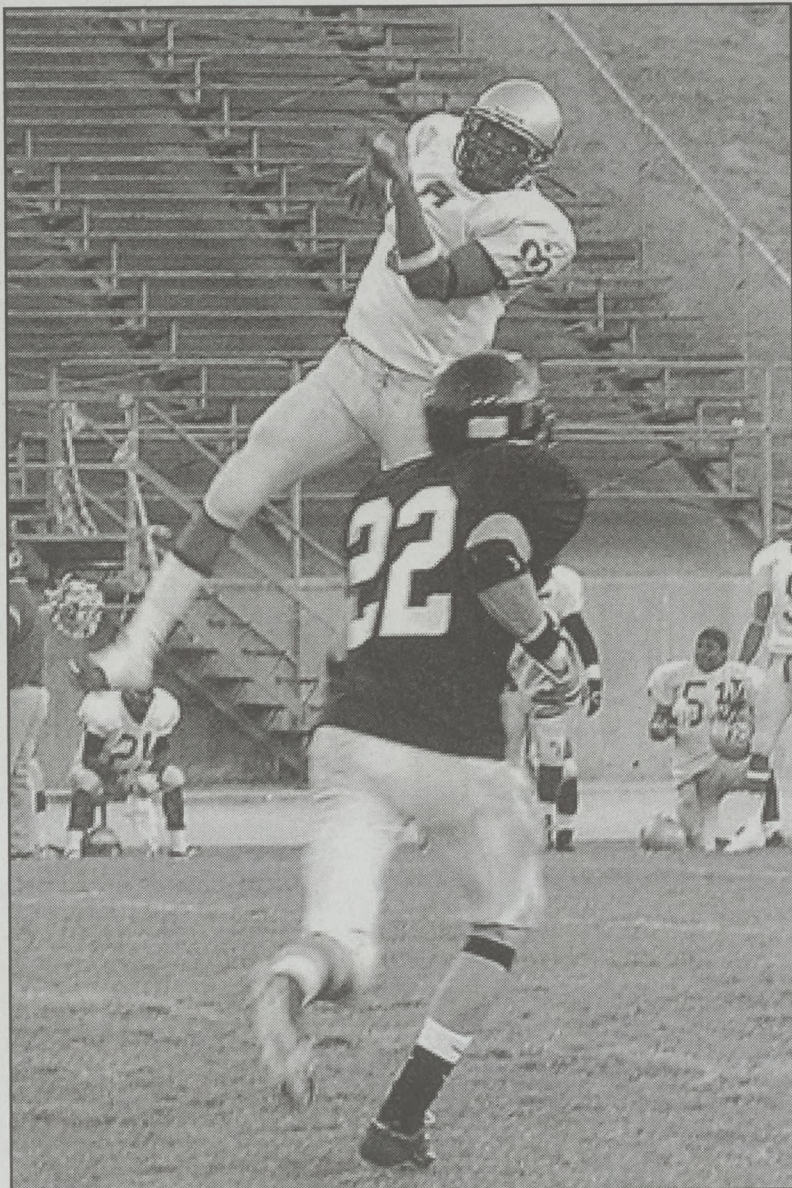
Once the Monarchs established the rush, starting quarterback Corey Jones was able to use play-action passes and find open receivers in the post and down the sidelines. Executing this strategy to perfection, the Monarchs found themselves up 17-6 at the half.

Meanwhile, the Pierce offense struggled to get things started. Blitzing on nearly every down, the Monarch defense was relentless. Pierce quarterback Thomas Herringshaw was under constant pressure, hurried on seemingly every snap and was sacked five times.

"We stress teamwork and brotherhood," said defensive captain Bryant Barrientos on the team's effort and recent success (The Monarchs won their first game last week against Santa Barbara, 13-0). "Like we say in practice, our motto is 'We all we got'."

At the start of the second half, Jones found wide receiver Antoine Palmer in the end zone to make it 24-6. The Monarchs made it 30-12 after Jackson and wide-receiver Lance Harper met up for a 12-yard touchdown to start the fourth quarter. But, with flags flying and whistles blowing, Pierce found a way to sneak back into the contest. Herringshaw connected with Kenny Kinard — the first, a 20-yard reception, and the second a 10-yarder, with 4:43 remaining in the game, bringing Pierce to within five, 30-25.

But the Monarchs' wishes would be granted. After a costly Monarch fumble, Pierce was given one last scoring opportunity. However, the Monarch defense asserted itself once more



NINA BRUCKNER / VALLEY STAR

MATRIX RELOADED - The Monarchs were flying high against Pierce, winning 30-25. Marquis Powell, #6, catches the ball.

— breaking up passes and forming impenetrable walls at the line of scrimmage. Defensive backs Kirifi Ofagailo and John Fonua contributed strong tackles and the Monarchs held on for the win.

The Monarchs will visit No. 1-ranked College of the Canyons on Nov. 12 for the last game of the season.

WATER POLO

Monarchs Advance

BY MARCO ELORREAGA
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Valley College men's water polo team earned a split over the weekend at the Western State Conference Championship and earned a berth in Friday's Southern California Championships at Citrus College.

The Monarchs defeated Ventura College, 12-7, and lost a close game to Cuesta College, 8-7. The Monarchs thought the loss would keep the team from the state tournament, but they made it to the single-elimination championships.

"In that tournament [State Championships], you lose and the season is over," said head coach Jim McMillan.

The Monarchs had a chance to win its second game, but squandered a one-man advantage and a 5-6 lead in the fourth quarter. Cuesta lost one of its star players, Jeff Chaney, with a second foul. However, the Cougars scored three-straight goals in the final period to take a two-point lead with only a few minutes to play.

In an effort to catch up, Billy Brady's shot on goal bounced off the post, but Fernando Navarette was there to regain possession. He passed it to Eric Kramer, who was pulled back by an opposing player. After the call, Kramer scored the final goal of the game narrowing Cuesta's lead to 8-7.

With nine seconds left, Cuesta's Mike Kirkland held the ball until time ran out.

"The team played very well," said Valley's Nestor Dordoni, "I thought we should have won the game. The team tried. I think it was a good effort, as long as we try. I'm proud of our guys."

CROSS COUNTRY

Runner Fell Short From State Final

■ Only two Monarch runners qualified for Southern California Championships, but fell short of State.

BY CHRIS GARCIA
STAFF WRITER

A false start, solid competition and a bad hamstring helped keep Valley College from sending two of its men's cross country runners to next week's State Finals.

The men's cross country team placed 10th in Western State Conference tournament earlier this month and didn't qualify for Friday's Southern California Championships. However, Valley runners Michael Stotland and Jordan Castellanos made it to Friday's 4-mile race. The event

featured 250 of the top runners from Southern California, with the top 25 earning a spot in the state championship.

"These guys have worked hard all year I think they can qualify for the state meet," said men's cross country coach Francois Wolman before the race held at San Diego State University.

As the gun sounded, the Valley co-captains took off at a good pace, only to have officials stop the race after a runner fell at the 400-meter mark. After the restart, Stotland and Castellanos gobbled the flat portion of the course.

"They ran the first mile perfectly," said Wolman, as his runners found their pace. "They did exactly what I told them."

The three leading runners separated from the rest of the pack around the 1-mile mark

and dominated the rest of the race. The terrain got a little rough during the second and third miles, which included a rocky-dirt trail, hills, and a ditch, which gave many runners trouble.

Stotland and Castellanos were still close to each other at the halfway mark and the pack started to stretch out. On a steep downhill, Castellanos pulled his hamstring and couldn't keep pace with the pack. During the final mile, Castellanos was struggling due to his injury and Stotland was fighting to stay in the top 25.

Stotland missed the State Finals with a 27-place showing and a time of 23:26. Castellanos's time was 23:43.

"I raced well, smart and I passed a lot of guys," Stotland said. "I gave it everything I had."

VALLEY PEOPLE

Dordoni Brings Leadership to Men's Water Polo

■ Dordoni is not only a top athlete, but he is also a good student.

BY CHRIS GARCIA
STAFF WRITER

When Santa Monica pulled the plug on its men's water polo team due to a lack of funding, Valley College coach Jim McMillan made a telephone call and hooked a big fish.

"I just wanted to give Nestor [Dordoni] an opportunity to play again so that he would not regret not playing five years from now," said McMillan about the leader of Valley College's men's water

polo team.

In his freshman year at Santa Monica College, Nestor Dordoni was named All American, All Western State Conference and was one of 20 student athletes of the year in 2003-04 at Santa Monica.

He is now leading the Monarchs into the Southern California Championships Friday at Citrus College and has scored a team-leading 50 goals in 24 games. Pretty good for the Culver City High School graduate who said he planned to quit water polo after he left Santa Monica.

"Nestor is our leader on and off the water," McMillan said.

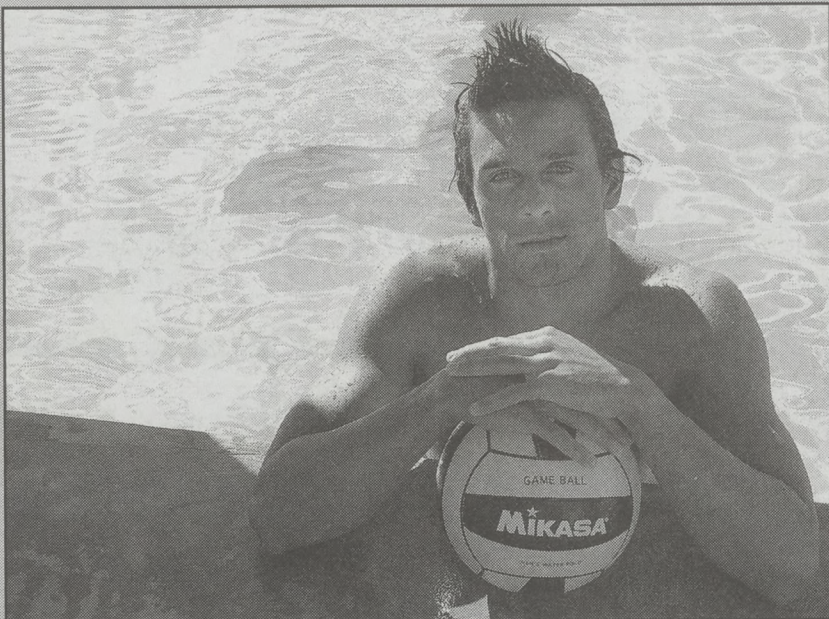
As good as the Monarch sophomore is in the water, he

has equaled in the classroom by earning a 3.5 GPA and has just about finished his AA degree.

Nestor wants to transfer to Princeton University, Brown University, or one of the UC schools next year. The psychology major plans to earn a master's degree and wants to work as a firefighter or lifeguard.

"I have learned a lot from coach, he is a good person and a gentlemen," Dordoni said. "I am happy that I decided to attend [Valley]."

What matters most to Nestor at this moment is for the Water Polo team to win the Conference title and then perform well at the state meet later next month.



NINA BRUCKNER / VALLEY STAR

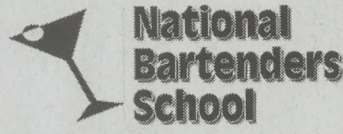
BORN LEADER -Nestor Dordoni leads the Monarchs Water Polo team in and out of the water.

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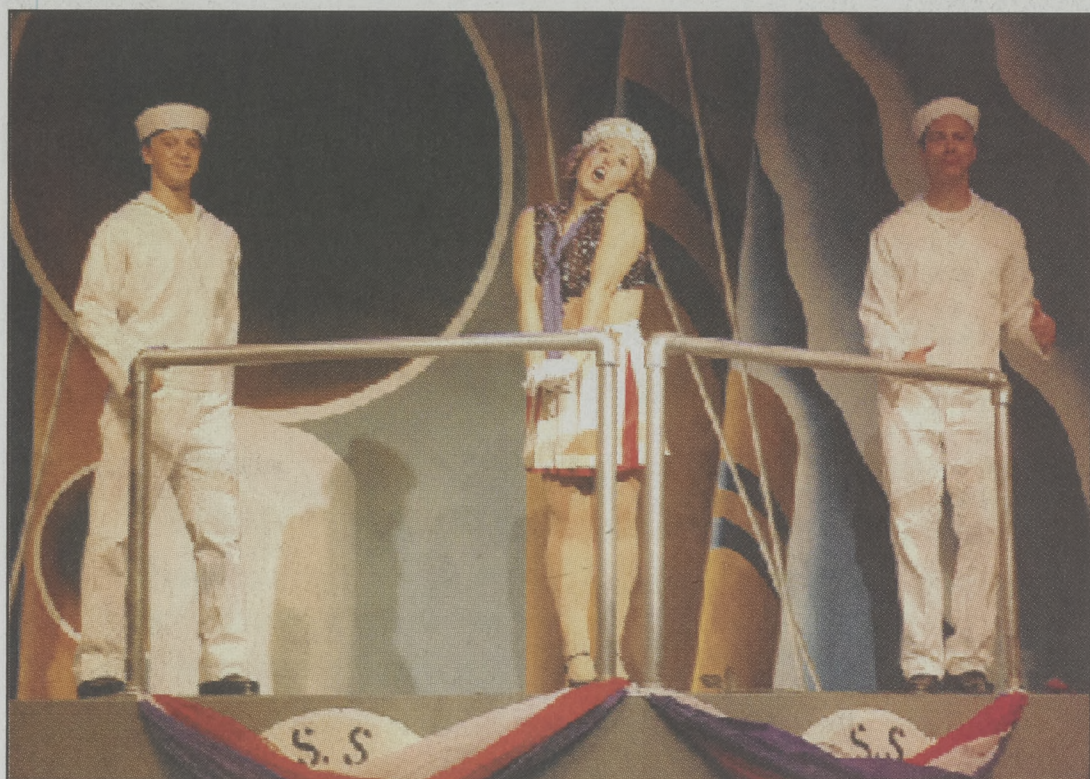
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ON THE GOOD SHIP LOLLIPOP - Chavonne Rees does her best Shirley Temple impression as "Ruby," a small-town girl with big city dreams. MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR



IN A HAZE - Oscar Luzanilla's "Lucky" searches for love in all the wrong places while performing "Singapore Sue." MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR



SINGING IN THE RAIN - Supporting cast members Heather Williams, Oscar Luzanilla, Jenna Townsend, Vincent Perez and Alex Banuelos lend their voices to Chavonne Rees' "Raining in My Heart." MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR

DAMES AT SEA

Photos and text by
Maria Low

Dames at Sea is a 1930s' musical telling the story of a girl named Ruby who travels by bus from a small town in Utah to make it big on Broadway with only her talent and a suitcase with a pair of tap-shoes, "Dames at Sea" mixes catchy tunes flashy costumes.

"Dames at Sea" is playing at Valley's Horseshoe Theatre Nov. 10, 11 and 12.



ALL HANDS ON DECK - The men of "Dames at Sea" perform the title number aboard the S.S. Reed. MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR



WHO WEARS SHORT SHORTS? - Vincent Perez, Heather Williams and Dillon Zrike perform "The Echo of Waltz." MARIA LOW / VALLEY STAR